

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A disposable protective glove comprising:
a first layer of glove material, with an effective amount of antimicrobial agent therein the glove material or thereon an outer surface of the first layer; and
a second layer formed of a glove material without the antimicrobial agent from the first layer therein the second layer, to be closer to a hand than the first layer, when the glove is worn on the hand, the second layer configured to resist, when the glove is worn, penetration by the anti-microbial agent and thereby to resist contact between the anti-microbial agent with the hand.
2. (previously presented) A glove according to claim 1, wherein the anti-microbial agent is selected from the group consisting of diphenyl ethers, a compound having a phenol group, diacetylamino-azotoluene and trichlorocarban, 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether, chlorophene, and dichloroxylenol, hexachlorophane.
3. (original) A glove according to claim 2, wherein the antimicrobial agent comprises 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether.
4. (original) A glove according to claim 3, wherein the glove contains from 0.1 to 10 % by weight of 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether.
5. (original) A glove according to claim 4, wherein the glove contains from 0.1 to 5 % by weight of 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether.
6. (original) A glove according to claim 5, wherein the glove contains from about 0.3 to 3% by weight of 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether.

7. (currently amended) A glove according to claim 1, wherein: the second layer includes an interior surface;
the glove further comprises a preparation disposed on the interior surface;
the preparation includes an additional anti-microbial substance different from the antimicrobial agent of the first layer; and
the preparation includes a buffer that helps resist change in pH during wearing of the disposable protective glove.

8. (original) A glove according to claim 7, wherein the additional antimicrobial substance is acidic during a period when the protective glove is worn, and wherein acidity of the additional antimicrobial substance contributes substantially to anti-microbial properties of the antimicrobial substance.

9. (original) A glove according to claim 8, wherein the preparation has pH within a range of 4.5 to 6.0 during a period in which the preparation is moist.

10. (original) A glove according to claim 7, wherein the additional antimicrobial substance includes an acid that exists naturally in an edible plant.

11. (original) A glove according to claim 7, wherein the preparation further includes a skin soothing substance.

12. (original) A glove according to claim 11, wherein the skin soothing substance includes dehydrated aloe vera.

13. (original) A glove according to claim 1, wherein the first layer is made from a material selected from the group consisting of a resinous material and a polymer material.

14. (original) A glove according to claim 1, wherein the first layer is made of a single layer selected from the group consisting of natural rubber latex, acrylonitrile, vinyl, chloroprene, and polyvinyl chloride.

15. (original) A glove according to claim 1, wherein the second layer is made of a single layer of fluid-impermeable material.

16. (original) A glove according to claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial agent is evenly distributed within the first layer of the protective glove.

17. (original) A glove according to claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial agent is evenly dispersed on the outer surface of the first layer.

18. (currently amended) A disposable protective article comprising:
an outer layer having an antimicrobial agent distributed within or applied onto an outer surface of the outer layer; and

an inner layer to be closer to the skin than the outer layer, the inner layer formed free of said antimicrobial agent of the outer layer and having less proteins than natural rubber latex and comprising an interior surface with a skin conditioning or soothing substance dispersed thereon;

wherein the inner layer serves as a barrier between the skin and the outer layer so to resist developing of antimicrobial resistance in microbes on the skin and some of the skin conditioning or soothing substance will interact physically with perspiration from the skin and due thereto increase in ability to condition or soothe the skin.

19. (original) A disposable protective article according to claim 18, wherein the antimicrobial agent is distributed within the outer layer and applied onto the outer layer.

20. (original) A disposable protective article according to claim 18, wherein the skin conditioning or soothing substance is a dehydrated preparation.

21. (original) A disposable protective article according to claim 18, wherein the skin conditioning or soothing substance also contains an additional antimicrobial agent.

22. (original) A disposable protective article according to claim 18, wherein the inner layer comprises polyurethane, chloroprene or polymer.

23. (original) A disposable protective article according to claim 18, wherein the disposable protective article comprises a disposable protective examination glove.

24. (withdrawn) A method for making a disposable protective article for protecting skin, the disposable protective article to comprise multiple layers, the method comprising:
forming a first layer, the first layer comprising a material that includes an antimicrobial agent dispersed within;

forming a second layer, the second layer to be closer to the skin than the first layer when the disposable protective article is in use, wherein the second layer is to help resist contact between skin and the antimicrobial agent when the disposable protective article is used on skin.

25. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein the step of forming the first layer precedes the step of forming the second layer.

26. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein the antimicrobial agent is hereinafter referred to as zeroth antimicrobial agent, the method further comprising:
applying a first preparation to a surface of the first layer, the first preparation including a first antimicrobial agent.

27. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, the method further comprising:
applying a second preparation to a surface of the second layer, the second preparation including a skin conditioning substance that is activated by perspiration from the hand.

28. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, the method further comprising:
applying a second preparation to a surface of the second layer, the second preparation including a second antimicrobial agent, the second antimicrobial agent being different in kind from the zeroth antimicrobial agent.

29. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein the antimicrobial agent is hereinafter referred to as zeroth antimicrobial agent, the method further comprising:
applying a preparation to a surface of the second layer, the preparation including:
an antimicrobial agent different in kind from the zeroth antimicrobial agent, a skin conditioning substance, or
a skin conditioning substance.

30. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24 wherein the disposable protective article comprises a disposable protective glove.

31. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24 wherein the step of forming a first layer comprises coating a former with a composition that includes latex, nitrile, or PVC.